

## Schedule of Course Activities

Topic	Question(s)	Reading	Assignment Due
<b>Part I: The Context – Language of Sport</b>			
Introduction to course			
The Language of Sport – A Daily Tradition	How and why does the “language of sport” arise on a daily basis? Is the “game” metaphor appropriate for explaining life?	Hardaway, “Foul Play”	List of sports metaphors
The Language of Sport – Metaphors (con’t)	Do we really want to be considered a nation of team players and sports fans? Most games require that players out-manuever and in a way, trick, their opponents; can these actions be appropriately applied to “real” life?		
The Language of Sport – Problems and Complications	Is sports jargon in fact overused? Can it be controlled? What are some errors in diction that you are used to hearing?	Newman, “Regulated to the bench, sportswise”	
The Language of Sport – Comparing Writing Styles	How would you compare these two pieces, in terms of writing styles, and in terms of the writer’s relationship with the fan? Similarities? Differences?	Rice excerpt, (insert piece from Best of 2009)	
The Language of Sport – The Novel	How does W.P. Kinsella use language to convey Ray’s love for the beauty and history of American baseball?	<u>Shoeless Joe</u> (I)	
The Language of Sport – The Novel	How are themes of redemption, family, dreams, religion, love and perseverance manifested in the novel?	<u>Shoeless Joe</u> (II)	
<b>Part II: Non-Fiction Genres</b>			
Non-Fiction	Drawing from your own experiences, how do you read a fiction work differently from a non-fiction work? How does a non-fiction work affect you, personally?	<u>The Boys of Summer</u> (I)	
Non-Fiction (con’t)	In what ways does Kahn portray the book’s characters as ordinary citizens, as opposed to superstar professional baseball players?	<u>The Boys of Summer</u> (II)	Reaction Paper 1 – <u>Shoeless Joe</u>
Memoir	How is the memoir significant, especially to American culture? What is the memoir able to accomplish that a fiction or non-fiction	<u>Friday Night Lights</u> (I)	

Memoir	How is the memoir significant, especially to American culture? What is the memoir able to accomplish that a fiction or non-fiction work cannot?	<u>Friday Night Lights</u> (I)	
Memoir (con't)	How does Bissinger use his language to convey attitudes towards high school in Texas? Which specific scenes on the football field are memorable because of the tension and emotion?	<u>Friday Night Lights</u> (II)	
Memoir (con't)	How is football tied to self-image, and the town of Odessa?	<u>Friday Night Lights</u> (III)	Reaction Paper 2 – <u>The Boys of Summer</u>
Memoir (con't)	How do we respond to Bradley, who insinuates that his career is a job, as well as a hobby? Bradley points out the many stresses of the game; how do you respond?	<u>Life on the Run</u>	
<b>Part III: Literature/Journalism Today</b>			
Sportswriting Today	Why should we care about sportswriting, and the language and writing styles associated with it?	Halberstam, “Why Men Love Baseball”	
The Feature Story	Why is this piece written? Are their ulterior motives? How does it make you feel?	ESPN.com, “Sparty helped save the party”	Reaction Paper 3 – <u>Friday Night Lights</u>
The “Beat” Story	What is “easy” to read in this piece? What is challenging?	Star Tribune story	
The Essay		Corder, “The Glove”	
Sport, literature and you	Of the genres we have studied – fiction, non-fiction, memoir, traditional journalism,		Final Paper